



The Runnels County Junior Livestock Show was held Jan. 14-16.

SEE PAGE 8

The Winters Enterprise



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Volume 26, Issue 8

Thursday, January 21, 2016

Winters, Texas 75¢

Briefly

Chamber Banquet

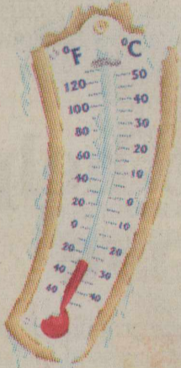
The Winters Chamber of Commerce will be hosting the annual banquet at 7 p.m. Saturday, March 5 at the Winters Community Center.

Tickets for the banquet are \$20 each or a limited number of sponsorship tables will be available for \$200, seating eight people at the sponsor's table. The banquet will be catered by The Shed. The Man and Woman of the Year along with Agriculture Family of the Year will be honored. New awards to be announced at the banquet this year and include Teacher of the Year and First Responder of the Year.

Please send nominees to Winters Chamber of Commerce P. O. Box 662 Winters 79567. The deadline for nominations is February 24.

Voter registration cards

The Runnels County Tax Office mailed new voter registration cards in December. The cards are blue and white in color and are valid from Jan. 1, 2016 through Dec. 31, 2017. Voters must present the card to vote in the upcoming primary election and beyond. If you have not received your card please contact the Runnels County Tax Office from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday at 325-365-2339. If you did receive the card and everything is correct please sign retain for voting for the next two years.



The last drop

A strong cold front is expected to move through Runnels County today bringing strong northwesterly winds to the region today and Friday according to the National Weather Service in San Angelo.

Winds are expected to be between 15-20 miles per hour with gusts as high as 30 miles per hour.

High temperatures will be in the mid to upper 60s while lows will dip into the low 30s. No precipitation is expected with this front.

Another cold front is expected to converge on the area Monday bringing with it a slight chance of precipitation.

No rainfall was recorded from Jan. 14-20.

The official rainfall for 2015 was 28.87 inches for Ballinger, 33.24 inches for Wingate and 26.78 inches reported in San Angelo.

ON THE NET:
<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/sjt/>

Wal Mart closing, Cash Saver to remain open

Winters will retain long time supermarket

BY CELINDA HAWKINS
MANAGING EDITOR
WINTERS ENTERPRISE
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An announcement last Friday by Wal Mart corporate headquarters on the closure of the Wal Mart Express in Winters, could have left the small town without a supermarket, after Lawrence Brothers had announced two weeks

prior the Cash Saver would be closing by the end of January.

But alas, at the eleventh hour, Cash Saver and its pharmacy, will remain open, much to the relief of officials and citizens in Winters.

President and CEO Jay Lawrence said he made the decision to keep the Winters store open early

Friday following the announcement by Wal Mart that the Wal Mart Express store would be closing.

"We understand that the Wal Mart Express stores are all being closed and so as a result we made the decision to continue to operate the Cash Saver and in Winters," Lawrence said

SEE CLOSING, Page 6



CHAD MCDUFFEE | ENTERPRISE PHOTO
Officials from Lawrence Brothers announced Friday, Jan. 15 that the Cash Saver grocery store and pharmacy in Winters will remain open following the announcement that the Wal Mart Express will close Jan. 28. Employees at Cash Saver are busy restocking the shelves and officials say they should be 95 percent stocked by Jan. 28.

Livestock show draws a crowd

Organizers call show a success

BY CELINDA HAWKINS
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The 15th Annual Runnels County Junior Livestock Show was a success organizers say, with more than 130 4-H and FFA members from Ballinger, Winters, Miles and Rowena showing 400 projects at the Ballinger Community Center Jan. 14-16.

The categories included cattle, swine, lamb and goats and rabbits.

"I thought it went very well," said Cecil Kalina, president of the Runnels County Junior Livestock Association. "The quality was there in every species."

For many participants the Runnels County show kicks off the stock show season as a prelude to shows in San Angelo, San Antonio and Houston.

The

results for the Runnels County Junior Livestock Show will be printed in a special editions of the Ballinger Ledger and Winters Enterprise Jan. 28.

The Runnels County Premium Sale was held Saturday following the cattle portion of the show. More than 200 sponsors participated, allowing all of the participants the opportunity to sell their projects. The final tally of the sale will not be complete for several weeks, but Kalina said roughly \$90,000 was awarded to presenters. Funds from the sale provide scholarships and help participants with future projects. All funds generated in the premium sale go to the 4-H and FFA youth.

"The funds will be distributed in March or April," Kalina said.

A barbecue lunch was provided to more than 350 supporters, sponsors and participants Saturday. The meal was

catered by Linda Urbanek of Lowake.

"It is a community service - we have done this for the



last two years," Urbanek said.

Members of FFA and 4-H

SEE SHOW, Page 5

CELINDA HAWKINS | ENTERPRISE PHOTO
Mollie Weaver, 14, of the Winters FFA, won both Grand and Reserve Champion honors in the commercial class for rabbits during the Runnels County Junior Livestock Show held Jan. 14-16.

Robotics competition at BHS Saturday



PHOTO COURTESY OF TCEA

The Texas Computer Education Association will host the Region 15 Lego Mindstorm Robotics Competition at Ballinger High School this Saturday in the gymnasium.

BY CELINDA HAWKINS
MANAGING EDITOR
WINTERS ENTERPRISE
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The Texas Computer Education Association will host the regional Lego Mindstorm Robotics Competition at Ballinger High School this Saturday in the gymnasium.

Twenty-two districts from TCEA Area 15 will be represented during the competition with students in grades 4-12 competing. Students will be competing for the opportunity to represent Area 15 in the state competition April 30. The state event will be in Central Texas, but the ex-

act location has not been announced.

Angela Gau, director of TCEA Region 15, who is also the network administrator for Ballinger ISD, said hosting the competition is a first for BISD.

"I think this is a great thing for Ballinger across the board," Gau said. "It is a neat opportunity for us as a district."

Robotics is important as a resource for teaching science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) skills. In addition, students who participate develop critical thinking, collaboration and problem solving skills

as well as developing skills for the technology age like creativity, imagination, curiosity and imagination.

Each year, TCEA provides members with the opportunity to explore robotics. Students from elementary to high school design, collaborate, plan, redesign, construct, create, assemble, invent, write and present robotics projects which determine which school has developed the smartest robot.

This competition will include Region 15 students from Ballinger, Winters,

SEE ROBOTICS, Page 6

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FUNERALS AND OBITUARIES

Richard W. Bradshaw

Richard W. Bradshaw, 84, of Winters, died Jan. 9, 2016. He was born Aug. 19, 1931 in Robert Lee. The family received friends at 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 11, 2016 at Winters Funeral Home. Funeral service were at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12, 2016 in the Winters Funeral Home Chapel. Burial followed in Lakeview cemetery directed by Winters Funeral Home.

Winters Enterprise, January 21, 2016

Geneva Bradford Cook

SAN ANGELO — Geneva (Bradford) Cook peacefully passed away on Sunday, Dec. 13, 2015. In celebration of her full life, there will be a memorial service at 2 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 18, 2016 at the First United Methodist Church in Winters with a graveside service immediately following at the Wingate Cemetery. Arrangements are by Shaffer Funeral Home/Sherwood Way.



Geneva was born in Alvarado on Sept. 17, 1926 to Charlie and Beulah Bradford. When she was just two months old, her family moved to the plains of Texas and she grew up near Floydada. Geneva met Kenneth William (K.W.) Cook, her best friend and love of her life, in Lockney, Texas when she was eighteen years old and they were married three weeks later. K.W. and Geneva settled and raised their family in Winters. They were married (four days shy) of sixty-six years. Geneva was an active member of the First United Methodist Church in Winters.

K.W. preceded her in death on Dec. 31, 2011. She was also preceded in death by her parents and eight siblings, Virgil, Myrtle, Mable, Delzie, Robert, Tennie, Houston, Floyd, and a very special grandson-in-law, Ben Bythewood.

Geneva, or Gran as she was known by so many, was known for her outgoing personality and zeal for life. She and Mr. Cook (Cookie) welcomed countless friends and family to their lakehouse and into their home in Winters. She always made sure there was enough food and fresh brewed tea. She loved being actively involved in her community and helping others. She loved to cook and sew but not more than she loved to ski. She rightly earned bragging rights in her ability to solom ski without getting her beautiful red hair wet all over Oak Creek Lake. Everyone enjoyed visiting and staying with Gran. While she wasn't in her sewing room, kitchen or at the lake, you could find her at an Eastern Star meeting or event as she was an outstanding member and officer. She blessed numerous women and men in that busy and fun season of her life.

Geneva is survived by two sisters, Jean Logan and husband Bob, and Marcellita. She is also survived by her two sons, Richard Cook and wife Barbara and Larry Cook and wife Debbie. In addition, Geneva is survived by grandchildren, Amy Bythewood, Kaci Follis and husband Lynn, Molly Powell and husband Kris, Morgan Cook, Nicole Smith and husband Robbie, Josh Cook, and Ryan Cook. She is also survived by great grandchildren, Benjamin Bythewood, Bryanna Flournoy and husband Chris, Kacelyn Follis, Kolson Follis, and Karter Follis. She is also survived by her great-great grandson, Braden Flournoy as well as numerous, very special nieces and nephews that she considered her own.

A very special thank you to the staff at Bronte Health and Rehab Center. Your support, love and care for Gran was matchless and you all were such a blessing to her.

Online condolences may be made at www.shafferpio-neer.com

Winters Enterprise, January 21, 2016

Mary Sue Cooke Turner

Feb. 4, 1928 — Jan. 11, 2016

Mary Sue Cooke Turner passed from her earthly life on Monday, Jan. 11, 2016 in Tyler, with her children and close family by her side.

Sue was born on Feb. 4, 1928 in Winters to Sam and Eula McNeill Cooke.

Sue attended McMurray College in Abilene, as well as San Angelo College in San Angelo. She worked for many years as a bookkeeper at the Lone Star Gas Company, and then for Angelo State University until her retirement.

Sue will be remembered as one of the kindest and most genuine people anyone could possibly know. She was generous to her family, friends, and anyone she encountered with her time, attention, and talents; she served others and those in need whenever she could. Sue loved her family fiercely, and enjoyed every moment spent with them: cooking amazing meals, baking Italian cream cakes, and peach cobbler were some of her many talents she especially enjoyed with her great-granddaughter after moving to Tyler. Sue weathered many storms in her life, and no matter how difficult the situation she had to face she maintained a positive attitude, and motivated others to do the same. Anyone that encountered Sue Turner was quickly inspired by her philosophy on life with God as the center. She loved and served the Lord Jesus with all her heart, witnessed her love of Him to everyone around her, and all who knew her



believe she is rejoicing with Him right now in Heaven forever.

Sue is survived by her sister, Martha Gehrels; son, Steve Turner and daughter-in-law Susan; son, John Turner and daughter-in-law Cindi; granddaughter, Lara Turner Miller and husband Jeff; grandsons, Josh Turner and Austin Turner; as well as one great-granddaughter, Morgan Leigh Miller.

She was preceded in death by her parents; brothers, Bob

and Ernest Cooke; and her husband of sixty-eight years, Floyd Turner.

Services will be held at 10:30 on Saturday, Jan. 16, 2016 at the Winters Funeral Home in Winters. Donations in Sue's memory may be sent to West Texas Rehab, the West Texas Boys Ranch, or Meals on Wheels.

Winters Enterprise, January 21, 2016

COMMUNITY NEWS

is a free program provided by the Winters Public Library for the community.

City Council meetings

The Winters City Council meets at 6 p.m. Monday, January 25 in the council chambers at 310 North Main.

AA meets in Winters

Alcoholics Anonymous meets in Winters Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 8 p.m. at 204 W. Truett St. behind First Baptist Church in Winters.

Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group

The monthly Runnels County Alzheimer's Support Group will be held at Central Texas Nursing and Rehabilitation Center from 6:30-7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of the month from. All concerned citizens are invited to share in discussion and education about the disease process and caregiver perspective. There is no charge for this public service sponsored by the National Alzheimer's Association.

Sobriety First AA Group

Sobriety First Alcoholics Anonymous group will meet at the First United Methodist Church, in Ballinger, at 7 p.m. every Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. The group will meet Saturday with prior arrangements. Please use the Avenue A and Seventh Street entrance. Child care is available. For more information please contact the church at 325-365-2323.

Alanon meetings

Alanon meetings are held at the First United Methodist Church in Ballinger at 7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday night. Enter on the Avenue A and Seventh Street side. Alanon is open to all family and friends of alcoholics or drug users. Child care is available. For more information call 325-365 2323.

Forage seminar

A special 5-hour CEU Forage Seminar is set for January 26 at the First Baptist Church in Cross Plains. Registration is at 8 a.m. and programs begin at 9 a.m. The goal of this program is to provide producers with information on forage management strategies. The cost of the seminar and accompanying meal is \$20 to those that pre-register by January 19, thereafter a \$25 fee may be paid at the door. This program is presented by the Agrilife Extension offices in Brown, Callahan, Coleman, and Eastland Counties. For further information, contact the Callahan County Extension Office at (325) 854-5835.

Visit Friendly Neighbors

The Texas Extension Education Agency "Friendly Neighbors" invites everybody in the Runnels County area who is interested in learning about cooking, gardening, arts and crafts and other useful subjects to meetings at 2 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except during the summer). Meetings will alternate between the Runnels County Extension Office on the corner of south 7th Street and Sealy Ave. in Ballinger and the Winters Public Library at 120 N. Main St. in Winters. If you are interested and would like to find out more about this group, call Martha at 365-3890 or Judy at 754-5386.

Winters Head Start applications

Winters Head Start is always accepting applications. Call Ursula Estrada at 325-754-5577 ext. 3127 to set up an application appointment. Head Start serves children 3-4 years old. Children with disabilities are welcome.

Hone your computer skills

A Basic Computer Skills course will be held Thursday's through Feb. 11 at the Winters Public Library. Reservations must be called in 325-754-4251 as there are only six computers. Attendees may bring lap tops, but no Macs please. However you must reserve a space for your lap top also. This will be a six week program. Participants are encouraged attend all sessions if possible. This

USDA Expands Microloans to help farmers expand and improve

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STAFF REPORT

WASHINGTON — Agriculture Deputy Secretary Krysta Harden announced Tuesday that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will begin offering farm ownership microloans, creating a new financing avenue for farmers to buy and improve property. These microloans will be especially helpful to beginning or underserved farmers, U.S. veterans looking for a career in farming, and those who have small and mid-sized farming operations.

"Many producers, especially new and underserved farmers, tell us that access to land is one of the biggest challenges they face in establishing and growing their own farming operation," said Harden. "USDA is making it easier for new farmers

to hit the ground running and get access to the land that they need to establish their farms or improve their property."

The microloan program, which celebrates its third anniversary this week, has been hugely successful, providing more than 16,800 low-interest loans, totaling over \$373 million to producers across the country. Microloans have helped farmers and ranchers with operating costs, such as feed, fertilizer, tools, fencing, equipment, and living expenses since 2013. Seventy percent of loans have gone to new farmers.

Now, microloans will be available to also help with farm land and building purchases, and soil and water conservation improvements. FSA designed the expanded program to simplify the application process, expand eligibility requirements and expedite smaller real estate loans to help farmers strengthen their operations. Microloans provide up to \$50,000 to qualified producers, and can be issued to the applicant directly from the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

This microloan announcement is another USDA resource for America's farmers and ranchers to utilize, especially as new and beginning farmers and ranchers look for the assistance they need to get started. To learn more about the FSA microloan program visit www.fsa.usda.gov/microloans, or contact your local FSA office. To find your nearest office location, please visit <http://offices.usda.gov>.

The **Winters Enterprise**
Since 1886
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ROLL-UP

Runnels County

4 Winters Enterprise

Thursday, January 21, 2016

Public Record

Runnels County Jail Record January 21, 2016

Name	Age	Agency
Peter J. Tamez	39	BPD
Warrant fail to register as a sex offender		
Stacy Martin	29	RCSO
Possession of a controlled substance		
Victoria M. Navarretta	31	Concho
Driving w/ license suspended		
Christopher L. Arroyo	28	RSCO
Retaliation parole violation		
Jamie A. Sanchez	46	Concho
Possession of controlled substance parole violation		
Robert J. Markwell	23	Coke
Possession of a controlled substance		
Tiffany Rine	23	Coke
Possession of a controlled substance		
Autumn C. Ferguson	19	RSCO
Tampering w/ physical evidence		
William D. Madison	20	Concho
FTA - Possession of a controlled substance		
Willie E. Pritchard	50	Miles PD
DWI - 3rd		

VETERAN'S CORNER

At a press conference in Albany, New York, U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand (N.Y.) announced a new push to pass bipartisan legislation to ensure thousands of Navy Vietnam veterans are eligible to receive the disability and health care benefits they have earned. These "Blue Water" vets were exposed to the powerful toxin Agent Orange (AO) while serving off the coast of Vietnam and are currently ineligible for VA benefits for medical conditions related to AO exposure. Gillibrand is rallying support for the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act (S. 681) legislation, which would clarify existing law so that blue water veterans would be



Sandra G. Van Zant

fully covered by the VA if they served within 12 miles of the Vietnam shoreline. Several local TV stations and local print media covered the event. Currently, veterans must prove they had "boots on the ground" in Vietnam or served on the "brown water" rivers of the country before the VA will presume they were exposed to the herbicide and provide disability benefits for diseases related to that exposure. Gillibrand's bill, introduced with Senator Steve Daines (Mont.) would presume exposure for blue water vets, allowing the VA to process their claims for service-connected conditions and alleviate a portion of the VA's backlog. For more information contact Sandra Van Zant at the Veterans Service Office at 602 Strong Ave on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., or call 365-3612.

— Sandra G. Van Zant,
Veterans County Service Officer

\$3,000 reward offered for most wanted sex offender from North Richland Hills

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) has added Mark Timothy McBride, 58, to the Texas 10 Most Wanted Sex Offenders list, and a cash reward up to \$3,000 is now being offered for information leading to his capture. McBride is wanted for failure to comply with sex offender registration requirements, parole violation and probation violation. All tips are guaranteed to be anonymous. McBride has ties to the North Richland Hills/Fort Worth areas, and has previously lived in Pagosa Springs, Colo. Prior to absconding from the North Richland Hills area in 2011, McBride had expressed an interest in living and working in Alaska. In 2006, McBride was convicted in Tarrant County on three counts of indecency with a child/sexual contact for incidents involving two 16-year-old females. For more information or updates in the event of his arrest, see his



Texas
Department of Public Safety

wanted bulletin at: <http://www.dps.texas.gov/Texas10MostWanted/SexOffenderDetails.aspx?id=314>.

McBride is 5 feet 10 inches tall and weighs approximately 250 pounds. He may wear glasses.

Texas Crime Stoppers, which is funded by the Governor's Criminal Justice Division, offers cash rewards to any person who provides information that leads to the arrest of one of the Texas 10 Most Wanted fugitives or sex offenders.

To be eligible for the cash rewards, there are five different ways to provide anonymous tips:

- Call the Crime Stoppers hotline at 1-800-252-TIPS (8477).

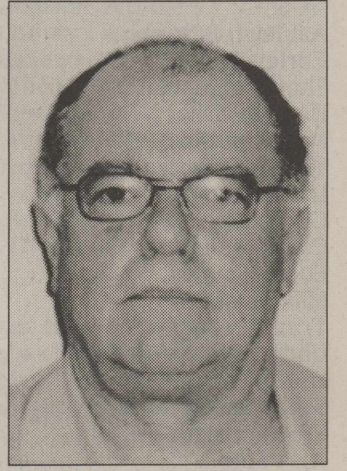
- Text the letters DPS - followed by your tip - to 274637 (CRIMES) from your cell phone.

- Submit a web tip through the DPS website by selecting the fugitive you have information about, and then clicking on the link under their picture.

- Submit a Facebook tip at <http://www.facebook.com/texas10mostwanted> by clicking the "SUBMIT A TIP" link (under the "About" section).

- Submit a tip through the DPS Mobile App. The app is currently available for iPhone users on the Apple App Store: (<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/texas-dps/id902092368?mt=8>) and for Android users on Google Play: (<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.microassist.texasdps&hl=en>).

All tips are anonymous - regardless of how they are submitted.



Timothy McBride

DPS investigators work with local law enforcement agencies to select fugitives for the Texas 10 Most Wanted Fugitive and Sex Offender lists. You can find the current lists - with photos - on the DPS website at <http://www.dps.texas.gov/texas10mostwanted/>.

Do not attempt to apprehend these fugitives; they are considered armed and dangerous.

GOT NEWS

We welcome your news items and photos to include in the upcoming edition of **The Ballinger Ledger** or **Winters Enterprise**. Choose the way that's most convenient for you.

In person, at 806 Hutchings Avenue in downtown Ballinger. Office Hours are Monday - Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 12 noon.

By phone to 325-365-3501.

By fax to 325-365-5389.

By email: chawkins@ballingerledger.com

Deadlines are as follows: News items - Noon Monday; Display advertising - 5 p.m. Monday; Classifieds line advertising - 11 a.m. Tuesday.

We're proud to be a part of these communities

The Ballinger Ledger

The Winters Enterprise

DPS seeks leads in 1981 murder of San Antonio woman

AUSTIN - The Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) and the Comal County Crime Stoppers are asking for the public's help in solving the murder of 18-year-old Carol Deleon of San Antonio in 1981. As part of a DPS public awareness program, one unsolved case is featured by the Texas Ranger Unsolved Crimes Investigation Team each month in an effort to generate new investigative leads and bring added attention to unresolved or "cold cases" across the state.

On Thursday, June 4, 1981, an unidentified body of a woman was found along IH 35 in Comal County, just south of the city of New Braunfels. An autopsy later determined the victim



died from multiple gunshot wounds. The victim was buried as a Jane Doe in 1981; however in 2009, the Texas Rangers identified the victim as Deleon using DNA technology.

At the time of her death, Deleon lived in the West Avenue area of San Antonio and had graduated from Thomas Edison High School on May 28, 1981, just days prior to her death. She was believed to have attended a San

Antonio night club on June 3, 1981. DPS is also seeking to identify the male standing with her in the photo (above right) as a possible witness.

The Comal County Crime Stoppers is offering an increased reward of up to \$10,000 (for the next 30 days, expiring on Feb. 12) for information leading to the arrest of the person or persons responsible for the death of Deleon. To be eligible for the cash reward, the tip must be submitted by calling 1-800-640-8422 or visiting the Comal County Crime Stoppers website at www.comalcrimestoppers.org.

Anyone with information about this unsolved case can also submit a tip through the Texas Rangers' Cold Case website or contact the Missing Persons Clearinghouse at 1-800-346-3243.

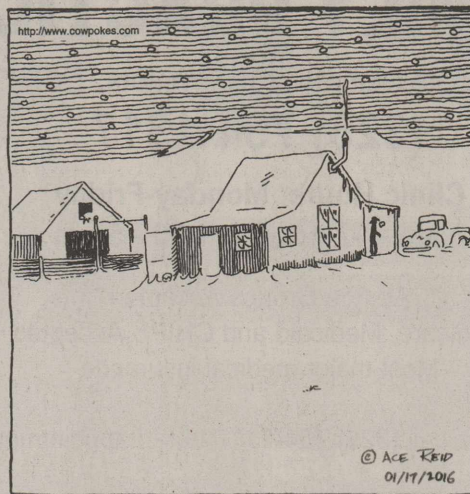
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SUBMISSIONS POLICY

Winters Enterprise

All submissions to the Ballinger Ledger or Winters Enterprise must be typed and emailed to the editor. Handwritten submissions will no longer be accepted.

The word count for letters to the editor is no more than 350 words, for guest columns it is 650 words. Lengths for other submissions will be determined by the content.

Please email all submissions to chawkins@ballingerledger.com or if you have questions, call 325-365-3501.

RUNNELS COUNTY JUNIOR LIVESTOCK SHOW



WINTERS ENTERPRISE PHOTOS

TOP: Participants lined up to show rabbits Friday, Jan. 15, 2016 during the Runnels County Junior Livestock Show. **ABOVE:** Contestants line up to show goats Friday, Jan 15, 2016 during the Runnels County Junior Livestock Show. (Photos by Chad Mcduffee)

LEFT: Members of 4-H and FFA from Ballinger, Winters and Miles helped serve a catered barbecue lunch to sponsors and participants Saturday, Jan. 16, 2016 during the Runnels County Junior Livestock Show. (Photo by Celinda Hawkins)

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SHOW,
from Page 1

groups from throughout Runnels County helped serve the meal.

The event is supported by the Runnels County Junior Livestock Association. The board of the RCJLA includes Kalina of Miles, Vice President Curt Skelton of Ballinger, Secretary Robert Langston of Ballinger, Treasurer Jason Battle of Ballinger and Past President Bill Bredemeyer of Winters. Directors of the RCJLA include Michael Woodall of Winters, Bill Belew of Winters, David Estevis of Miles, Janett Dankworth of Ballinger, Wade Halfmann of Miles, Sammy Edwards of Winters and Dusty Allen of Miles.

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Just Around the Corner

The challenges of a community newspaper

The face of the newspaper industry across the country has completely changed in the 20 plus years that I have been a reporter and editor. And, technology has been the driving force behind all of the changes that have occurred over the last two decades.

The other day I saw a Facebook post that asked whether or not the viewer knew what a little plastic canister with a black lid was. It was a film canister and this tells you everything you need to know about the gargantuan changes that have occurred in media and journalism.

I knew about this little item first hand because back in the day, during my first gig at the Monahans News, I spent many hours a week in a dark room, developing the film inside those canisters. It was a tedious process. First, you had to break the film out of its metal canister in complete darkness, roll it up and put it in another canister with chemicals - all in the dark. Once the film was safely in the sealed canister, the red light came on in the dark room and you could see what you were doing. Once the film developed, the photos were printed on

black and white paper (in those days, we rarely used color). Then the photos are hung up to dry in the red light. A few hours later and voila! Photos for the weekly paper.

In those early days, very few folks had Internet. I remember the day in 1996 when the Brownwood Bulletin put Internet on one computer in the newsroom. There was always a line of reporters waiting to get on the iMac - and it was dial up - remember that? Slow as molasses.

And, by the time I got to the Bulletin, the standard was color film, which we had developed at a photo place. We had a negative scanner, which was at the time, state of the art - and thanks to Photoshop - we were able to make the photos look awesome.

But within a year, digital cameras were all the rage - and newspapers were enjoying not having to fork over mega bucks for film



Celinda Hawkins

and developing supplies. Dark rooms became relics and were no longer used.

Meanwhile, newspapers across the country were in a race - to see who could have an online presence the quickest. In my opinion, the stampede to put newspapers online for free - was not very well thought out, a topic which has been debated for 20 years.

Some have referred to the aftermath as the demise of the newspaper industry. Many papers scammed to repair the financial damage to their bottom lines by putting up pay walls. When a reader goes to the news site, they are met with about three paragraphs from a story and when they click to read more, they are asked to pay for a subscription, for a day, a week, a month or a year. This process has deterred many readers, who just hunt for the rest of the story elsewhere.

Today, the industry is still struggling to make sure that community newspapers like the Ballinger Ledger and the Winters Enterprise, maintain a viable business. In 2014, GateHouse Media purchased the two papers along with other papers in Brownwood, Waxahachie,

Midlothian and Glen Rose. And now the challenge is to make sure the two weekly papers continue to grow.

We have worked hard to update the look of the papers and in September, launched websites for both. We have put special sections in the papers during special events. And moving forward, we want to evolve and improve even more.

All of that said, it is very important that the community newspaper is supported by the community or communities it serves.

In 2016, we want to continue to provide more news with better content, more local sports and more opportunities to improve our readership.

I would like to put together an editorial board, made up of members of the community and concerned citizens, who are interested in making the community newspapers better. This six member board will be made up of citizens from across Runnels County.

If you would like to sit on the board, contact me at the news office at 325-365-3501. I look forward to hearing from you!

Runnels County clerk accepting vote by mail applications

Deadline to apply is Feb. 19

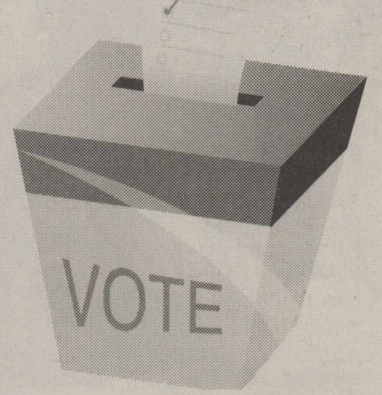
STAFF REPORT

The Runnels County Clerk's office is now accepting applications for early voting by mail for the March 1 Democratic and Republican Primary election. A voter has the option of voting in either the Democratic Primary or the Republican Primary.

A qualified voter is eligible to vote by mail if the voter:

1. Expects to be absent from the county of residency on election day AND during the regular hours for early voting by personal appearance;
2. Is disabled;
3. Will be 65 years of age or older on election day; or
4. Is confined in jail but eligible to vote

The last day for the county clerk's office to receive an application to vote by mail is February 19. Any qualified voter will be



eligible for early voting by personal appearance at the Runnels County Election Office (courthouse annex) in Ballinger, beginning Tuesday, February 16 and ending Friday, February 26. Office hours: 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Sample ballots will be available February 1 at the County Clerk's office in Ballinger, the Tax Branch office in Winters and the City Hall in Miles. For additional information or to request an application to vote early by mail, please contact the County Clerk's office at 365-2720.

CLOSING,

from Page 1

Friday. "It will take a bit of a ramp up and that way but we wanted to make sure Winters won't be without a grocery store."

City officials were relieved at the announcement.

"We have seen quite a turn of events with businesses in Winters during the past two weeks," said Randall Conner, Economic Development Director for the Winters Area Business and Industrial Corporation. "An agreement with Lawrence Bros was made late last week to retain the pharmacy in Winters when Wal Mart made its announcement to close."

Soon after, Conner said the decision was made to keep both the Cash Saver and the pharmacy open. The Wal Mart Express opened in 2014. In addition, Winters is also home to Dollar General and Family Dollar stores.

"Before all of these events transpired, we knew that it would be difficult for Winters to support two grocery stores and two dollar stores," Conner explained. "We are pleased

that Cash Saver will remain in Winters."

Wal Mart announced Friday Jan. 15 that Wal Mart would be closing 154 stores in the U.S. including 29 stores in Texas. Wal Mart will be closing the 102 Wal Mart Express stores, which had locations in Winters, Anson, Merkel and Haskell in the Big Country.

In a news release Friday, Wal Mart indicated the closures were the result of a review of the company's 11,600 locations world wide and they represented less than 1 percent of the company's holdings.

Lawrence had previously indicated that Cash Saver would close by the end of January because the community could not support two grocery stores. And last week, they were in the process of closing.

Employees are now working furiously to restock the shelves in the store as well as the pharmacy, Lawrence said.

"It will take us about a week to get to 95 percent but by the time Wal Mart closes on Jan. 28, we should be 100 percent stocked," Lawrence said.

Lawrence Brothers closed a store in Merkel two weeks ago and now will be working to reopen that location as a Cash Saver. The Cash Saver in Anson, which was set to close,

will also remain open.

Meanwhile, Walmart's statement showed that approximately 10,000 U.S. associates (workers) will be impacted by the decision including 30 full and part time employees in Winters.

"We will keep some of the associates on to clean the store and remove furniture and fixtures," said Anne Hatfield, a spokeswoman for Wal Mart. "We will work with any associate who wants to transfer."

Company officials have indicated that displaced employees can transfer to other nearby stores. Where a transition isn't possible, the company will provide 60 days of pay and severance if eligible, as well as resume and interview skills training. Severance will be available to employees who have been with the company a year or more. The Winters store opened Dec. 17, 2014.

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According to the news release, stores for employee transitions are only 10 miles away from another store.

This is not the case in Winters. The closest Wal Mart locations to Winters are Ballinger, which is 16 miles away, San Angelo, which is approximately 52 miles away and Abilene, which is 40 miles from Winters.

"We are concerned for the Wal Mart employees as they seek new jobs," Conner said Tuesday. "Winters Area Business and Industrial Corp. is working with Workforce Solutions to help the employees secure new jobs and/or job training."

Conner stressed the importance of shopping locally to keep retail businesses in the small town.

"It is vitally important that we shop at our local stores if we want to keep them," Conner said. "Every time shoppers go out of town to buy items that are available locally, it is a vote to close local businesses."

Brenda Grohman echoed Conner's comment on the Winters Enterprise Facebook page.

"This is why we need to purchase locally as much as possible, Lawrence Brothers has been a part of our community for over forty years," Grohman posted. "Without our locally owned business(es), Winters would slowly fade away. Please support our local businesses."

Overall commenters were thankful that Lawrence Brothers made the decision to remain in Winters.

"I was confused as to why Wal Mart was even allowed in our town knowing in the back of our minds that it could potentially cause a long time merchant to have to close their doors," posted Julie Burch Frierson. "BUT if that wasn't enough once they force the long time merchant out they say never mind we aren't staying! Like they aren't messing with people's lives jobs and our town. Thanks Cash Saver for hanging in there and being here for us!"

Monica Hagle agreed. "Guess we've found out who really cares about our community," Hagle posted.

ROBOTICS,

from Page 1

Bangs, Early, Coleman, Panther Creek, May, Robert Lee, San Angelo, Sonora, Wall, Zephyr, Brady, Brownwood, Grape Creek, Ozona, Rochelle, Rock Springs and Mason.

Students will compete in the problem contest and have the opportunity compete in an open-ended invention contest. Students

will use marketing, programming, writing, constructing and presentation skills during the competitions.

TCEA is a member based organization devoted to the use of technology in education. The primary focus is to integrate technology into the PreK-12 environment and provide members with state of the art information through conferences, workshops, newsletters, the Internet and collaborations with higher education and business.

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Source: Nielsen Scarborough 2015

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The Winters Enterprise

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Special Notices

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Subchapter C of Chapter 271. Bonita F. Shields City Secretary City of Ballinger, Texas

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 and
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BLIZZARDS BASKETBALL



Winters Blizzards continue to compete for playoffs

BY CHAD MCDUFFEE
WINTERS ENTERPRISE
cmcduffee@ballingerledger.com

Winters again started the week out on the road playing first place Stamford and were defeated 54-32. Aimee Green and Christy Kruse had 11 points a piece. Against Albany on Friday the Lady Blizzards were able to get much more done on offense and defeated Albany 54-45. Halfway through the district schedule and the Lady Blizzards sit at 3-4 in district and one game out of playoff contention. With a young team it also needs to be noted that these girls and Coach Val Acree have already doubled last seasons win total

with their sixth win of the season. Aimee Green made six 3-pointers on her way to a career-high of 26 points, which included going 6-for-6 from the free throw line. Christy Kruse added 12 points.

The Blizzard Boy's Varsity squad had so much turnover after last season most knew this would be a tough year as young players continued to learn. The boys were defeated last week by Stamford 76-41 and by Albany 67-22. On January 8, the Blizzards were defeated by Hamlin 53-39.

Winters will be on the road to face Haskell January 22 before returning home to face Roscoe on January 26 and Anson on January 29.



NAME HERE | BULLETIN PHOTO

ABOVE: The Winters Blizzards were defeated by Hamlin 53-39 on Jan. 8, 2016. Here, Slater Linley charges in for a shot. LEFT: The Winters Blizzards played a tough game against the Hamlin Pied Pipers Jan. 8, 2016 and were defeated 53-39. Here, Chris Diaz goes for a shot while Hamlin tries to defend the goal.

GO BLIZZARDS!



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